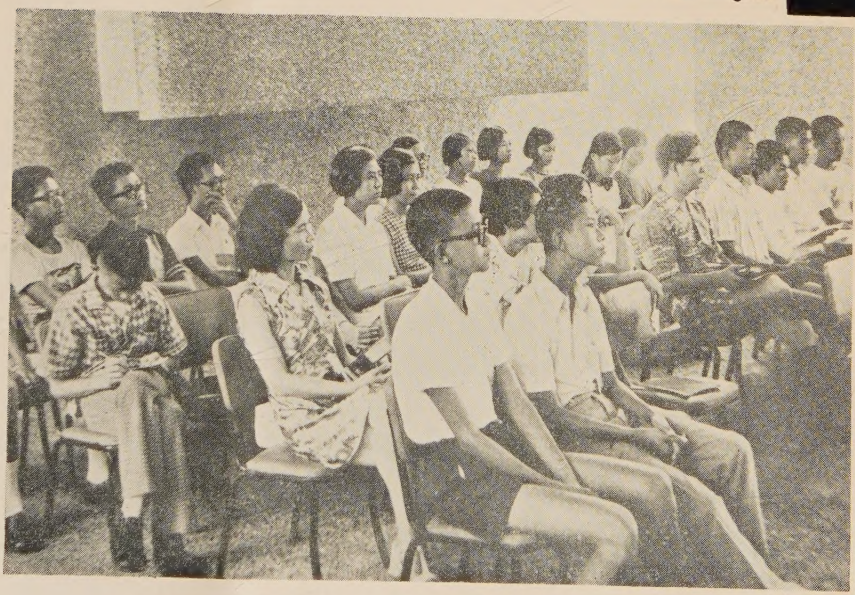


Friendship

友誼

Youth

Number



An attentive audience at Youth Camp

NEWS OF THE TAIWAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"FRIENDSHIP"—magazine of the Taiwan Episcopal Church.

Editors: Roy Taylor and Wilfred Chee.

From the Bishop

Dear flock and friends,

The Editors tell me that this issue of our "Friendship" magazine is about young people, so let me begin by saying something on

1. Youth Work in the Diocese We are fortunate in that a good number of the people in our small diocese are young people. None of our 14 churches can be called old people's or women's churches. In one of them, Holy Trinity, Keelung, young people outnumber older ones in the Sunday congregation. At Good Shepherd Church, Taipei, and at Grace Church and St. Michael's Church, Tainan, college student work and Young People's Fellowship are the most active parish groups. Two of the three summer conferences just held were for young people, and they were very well attended.

In our 20th Anniversary celebrations this year, the youth in the northern deanery have produced a play, Dorothy L. Sayers' "The Coming of the Messiah", and have rendered valuable assistance to Canon Bryan Green's mission and the Cynthia Fok piano recitals. We hope that from these young people will emerge future leaders and clergy of our church.

2. The Cynthia Fok Recitals Cynthia herself is a young Anglican from Hong Kong (my parishioner at St. Paul's Church there). The four piano recitals she gave at Taipei (June 14), Kaohsiung (June 16), Tainan (June 18) and Hualien (June 20) were well attended, which is usually not the case in Taiwan. With her masterly technique of expressive interpretation (especially with the Brahms pieces, her special repertoire for this year) but more with her humility (a rare quality among artists) and eagerness to please others, she won not only the applause but also the hearts of her audiences.

For her services to the Diocese and to the music public of the Republic of China, she was granted an audience by Madam Chiang and presented with a plaque by the Bishop.

3. Clergy Movements By the time this issue is out, Rev. John Chien will have

returned to Taipei from America (August 5) and Rev. Michael Liu from England (August 17.) We had hoped that Rev. Hu Kuo Hwa and family might also be back by September, but he may be detained at St. Paul's Church, Penang, for a little longer.

Canon Edmund Der and family have taken their second 3-year leave in Hong Kong from July 8 to August 3. Edmund also attended a S.E. Asia Mass Communication meeting in Manila in between. They are entitled to a 3-month furlough, but because of the pressure of work Edmund sacrificially cut short his leave.

4. Family Reunion for the Pongs This year is also my first 3-yearly furlough, and so I took my wife and mother back to Hong Kong for a week in May before going to Korea for the S.E. Asian Bishops' meeting. My son David and his wife Barbara were already in Hong Kong from England (where he was doing some research on a grant from the American Council of Learned Societies) and our daughter Rachel from America, and so we had a good family reunion, first in Hong Kong and later once again in Taipei, when our children and Barbara's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mar Fan came to Taipei in July.

I hope that you have had a restful summer and come back refreshed and strengthened for more service to Christ and His Church.

Your affectionate Bishop,

James Pong.

Young People and Church Growth

David Chee

I shall have to limit myself to only the more important things as available space is small for this big topic.

First, it is important to realise that for our Episcopal Church to grow numerically (in number of persons), we shall have to pay more attention to youth work than is presently given, especially when all possible contacts with our mainland congregations have been made and we have started very late in working among the local Taiwanese adults. Second, considering the fact that our church services do not directly attract young people, we note with apprehension that although we have Sunday Schools spread throughout the island, we have only 6 Young Peoples' Fellow-

ships, of which 4 are in the north. True it may be that the existence of so few Y.P.F.s does not reflect the entirety of youth work done, for there are other feeders to attract young people such as language classes, student hostel meetings and Bible study groups etc, yet not much active evangelistic work has been done in these respects. In view of these facts, what can we expect?

Perhaps there is a more basic question to consider: whether Y.P.F.s are effective groups for nurturing young Christians and effectively used as the church's contact with young non-Christians; or perhaps this form of fellowship which suits the western frame does not fit into a Chinese context. Looking around at other Churches, I find that this is not so. The Y.P.F. is indeed a strong arm of the Church.

Nevertheless, I hope I have not painted a gloomy picture of our youth work. And I feel quite happy to report on some of our fruitful tasks.

About the only work done on the diocesan level is the annual Summer Conference for college students and working young adults. A "reformation" in the content of these youth conferences started some 3 years ago when emphasis was placed on witnessing, prayer and Bible study. Since then, we have been having heartening results. At last year's conference, we had two baptisms—results of the first "reformed" conference, and one of our converts at that conference is already an active leader at this year's conference. We see the conferences as a time when our young people throughout the diocese can come together to share their Christian experience or to learn more of the Christian Faith, something which is more than what could happen in their own churches. A good deal of preliminary work has been initiated by individual clergymen with their young people before the conferences and there is also follow-up work after the conferences. Much depends on what goes on before and after the conferences in each church. We have attracted a larger group of young people at the "reformed" conferences than earlier years.

The other piece of work on the diocesan level but only in the northern deanery is the "Youth Council". Made up of committee members of the 4 northern Y.P.F.s, the "council" meets monthly for prayer, worship, Bible study, and instructions in methods of youth work and the Christian faith. This year, we heard lectures and had discussions on "Collects", "Confession & Absolution" and "Nicene Creed" given by Father Craighill. This group also plans "joint ventures". Last year's public performance of Dorothy Sayer's "Birth of the Messiah", New Year Eve's meeting at Tansui, this year's choir during the Canon Green Mission, and retreat at St. John's Cathedral, and a number of other meetings were all results of the youth "council" meetings.

A word about choir work neglected by many churches before I finished. I have seen St. John's choir attract young non-Christians to church. This is another potential

area for Christian outreach. We should put in more effort to develop our potentials.

Yes, we are growing—though a little too slow. With and by the Grace of God, let us pool more resources for this area of the growth of our Church here in Taiwan. And, we earnestly solicit your prayers.

Teenagers' Camp

This year's camp for teenagers was held at Sacred Heart School, a delightful setting beside the Tamsui estuary, a little to the west of Taipei.

It was really two camps in one, for older and younger members met separately for much of the time. The morning sessions were devoted to the themes of recognizing yourself, recognizing the Church and recognizing the world. Whereas the older members were able to take part in Bible Study on these themes, the younger ones needed a lighter treatment.

Once again all credit should be give to David Lai, who, despite the nearness of his September wedding, organized the camp very carefully. But there is something more important than organization and that is a work of the Holy Spirit. It soon became evident that the amount of true spiritual concern was small. Perhaps this is a reflection of failure at a local level. We must pray God to give us next year a group of spiritually hungry young people.



The whole camp



Singing at a sunset meeting

"My Impressions"—Wei-chun Yen

On 22nd July we took the northbound express to join this year's summer camp at Sacred Heart School. On the journey we were all a little apprehensive, wondering what to expect.

On arrival, we found it was indeed a beautiful environment. The first evening's Welcome Meeting soon banished our strangeness. The morning Bible Studies and group discussion gave us a deeper knowledge of the Bible. Although our group leader was Rev. Roy Taylor, an Englishman, we had a good relationship with him because in God's kingdom there are no divisions. The afternoon activities were suitable for everybody to join in. After three or four days we felt very close. By the time of the last evening's "Happy Theatre" we were truly moulded together under the blessing of God. On the day of our departure, underneath a cheerful exterior, many hid a sad heart. We had been told that, after leaving this environment, it might not be easy to live as Christians; but I hope I can avoid Satan's temptations.

On the return journey, I was no longer apprehensive but excited; for I felt that God's Spirit filled my heart.

Summer Camp Reflections

Paul Y. T. Chiang

It was July 3rd. The place was the Catholic Social Service Center in Hsinchu. Fifty-two college students and eight clergy attended the seventh Summer Camp for college students and young workers. All the preparations for this camp and the planning of the programme were done by the young people themselves and their hard work ensured a happy and successful camp for all.

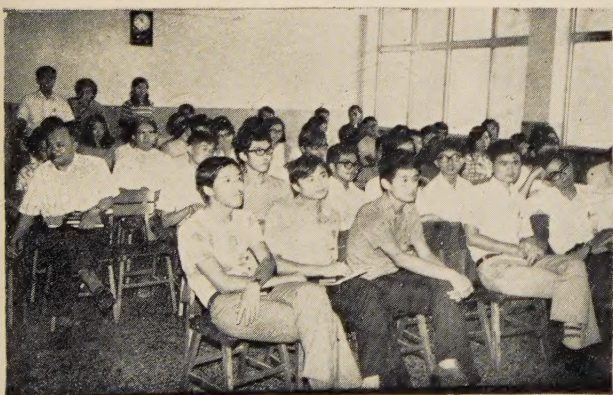
The theme for the Camp was "Church Growth". I was privileged to be elected as a group leader and this gave me a chance to serve. Because of this I came to have better understanding of the purpose of the camp. In the past camps have succeeded in providing for the physical and social needs of the young people, but spiritually they have achieved little. But since two years ago, there has been a change of direction. The spiritual aspects of camp life have received more attention. This is now the third year of the change. Already many young lives have been touched by the work of the Holy Spirit and have entered the church. Isn't this a sure sign of the growth of the church?

I have attended two camps so far. What I received from these camps has benefited me more than hearing sermons and attending meetings. Though the time was short, only five days, and the schedule each day fairly tight, yet it was a welcome change from the hustle and bustle of the daily routine of life and an opportunity to draw

nearer to Christ and experience life together in Christian fellowship. Each morning there was an address followed by group discussion. After dinner each night there were seminars and workshops on various topics such as "How To Lead Others To Christ" and "How To Become A Christian". In group discussions, the topics were always based on the addresses given earlier. There was a priest to act as adviser to every group. The interesting thing is that, at ordinary fellowship meetings, not many people speak up during discussions; but, at the Camp, though the groups were small in number, yet everybody took an active part in discussion. In such groups there were swift exchanges of views and the answers to many questions became clear fairly soon.

During the last night of the Camp, we had a service by candlelight. There was a dramatic presentation of the life of Christ at the first part of the service. Then a whole lot of candles were lit and placed on a table in the centre of the hall. The candles were of two kinds, red and white. For those who were Christians and would like to dedicate themselves in God's service, they were invited to take a red candle and to say a few words from the heart. For those who were not Christians yet and whose faith were still not strong, they were invited to take a white candle and to express how they felt about Christ and the Christian life. It was truly a very moving scene and we really felt the presence of Christ among us and the spirit of prayer in each of us.

And so the camp came to a close and each of us returned to our own respective churches. But one cannot help feeling that what took place at the Camp is going to mean a lot to the growth of the church in the days and years ahead.



A meeting in progress



Visit to a textile factory

ST. MICHAEL'S HOUSE

In 1966 the diocese bought a piece of land in Tainan which included two old Japanese buildings. One became the home of Archdeacon Patric Hutton and his family; the other was opened for the use of students. Tainan boasts only one university, and it was from this that the students were drawn.

Over the years there were many changes: the Huttons moved on to other work and others took their place. Eventually the local vicar, John Chien, assumed charge, with David Lai, a seminary student, living on the premises.

It was in 1971 that, following an unsuccessful application for work in Sabah, I came to St. Michael's. Observing a small community of 20 or so students, I saw great potential here. It was hoped through personal relationships to bring many of the students to the place of commitment to Jesus Christ. Since that time we have seen a small trickle of conversions. But there has been one big hindrance: we have never had enough true Christians to establish a sense of Christian community.

This autumn one of our buildings has to come down and be replaced. For a year, therefore, the 6 or 7 remaining students will be living in our building, which still survives. We are thus an even smaller community than usual.

In a year's time, when the new building is completed, we expect to accomodate 28 students. When recruiting new members, we shall seek to find a good nucleus of Christians. It is in fact, a good opportunity to start again with good foundations. It is our prayer that St. Michael's will be a spiritual community within which others can be drawn to Jesus Christ.



Past and present St Michael's Students at Summer Camp.

We do not pretend that ours is the only hostel work. The Cathedral has recently opened a hostel where there is accomodation for 84 girls; and St Peter's Chiayi also has a hostel for high school girls. There is great potential in work amongst students, and we need to grasp every opportunity to make Christ known to them.

R.W.T.

Advent Fellowship at Hsinpu

Mr. Yen-Rung Chang.

The Advent Fellowship is made up mostly of students. They come from all denominations even including the Roman Catholic and the Mormon church. The love of God draws us together in service to Him.

We firmly believe in one thing: that is, we must be like the wise man who built his house upon the rock. So Bible study and prayer become our means of knowing the true God. Many might think that these things are rather out-of-date and stereotyped nowadays, but actually we have found them to be most helpful in building a firm foundation.

Every morning there is a short time of hymn-singing, prayer and Bible study about 30-45 minutes. A different person leads it each time. When the number is big, we divide into small groups. This is actually a very good method, we have found. The group leader must prepare adequately and must be present every morning. During winter we do have problems. Many of our members find it difficult to resist the warm beds and get up to come for morning prayer and Bible study. Some have asked me to wake them up on my way to the church. But alas! Many of them return to their sleep. Some even dream that they have already gone to the church and joined in the singing and prayers.

We also have evening prayer in the church. But because of school work and other pressures, the attendance is not overwhelming. Every Thursday night there is always something special on, which adds colour and variety to the programme. Once a month there is a service of Holy Communion and Family Service. The programme includes Bible quiz, talks on special topics of interest and some dramatical presentation. On the average we get about thirty students at these meetings. But when you think of the whole student body consisting of over one thousand and five hundred students, what we are doing is only scratching the surface.

The work of spreading the Gospel is never finished. Though the number of members attending our Fellowship is on the increase, yet our responsibility is even more heavy than ever and our love for God and man should increase more and more as we study God's Word day by day.

We pray that God will bless and help and strengthen us who are only weak vessels. We pray that God will grant us hungry hearts to seek after His truth and that through our daily lives the fragrance of Christ will be spread to others around us. Amen.

THE WALK HOME

At the church gate, Wan-ming turned right, and began to walk home.

It was late October. There was a slight coolness in the air which contrasted favourably with the humid heat of summer. Here was the ordinary world about him again—taxis cruising for passengers, old men sitting in their undervests as they talked about nothing, noodle stalls with a scattering of customers taking their evening snack. All this was so normal, and yet only a few minutes earlier he had been in earnest conversation with En-rung.

"The decision is yours. No one can make it for you."

"I want to..... And yet."

"'He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me.' Those are the words of Jesus Himself."

"I know all that. I want to be a Christian, but, but..... It isn't easy."

"Of course. There is a big cost. Think about it."

He turned a corner, and found himself passing through the street market. Shirts, dresses, shoes, spectacles, children's clothes, and a host of other goods were exposed for sale. Cars and motor-bikes blew their horns furiously as they tried to make their way through the crowds who thronged the stalls. Did the Christian faith really have something to say to a busy world such as this?

Here was a granny feeding rice with a pair of chopsticks, to a little runny-nosed child. Relations with the adult world are simpler when you are just a kid. You do not have big decisions to make—they are all made for you. But as you climb through your teen years these relationships become more difficult.

"Wan-ming, you have been going to that church so often lately."

"I go to the Saturday fellowship. I've got friends there."

"It seems to your mother and myself that you are always there. Perhaps you will be wanting to take your bed there next."

"They are good people."

"I'm not accusing anybody. But they may give you dangerous ideas. They may turn you away from us."

"That isn't true. You know that."

"I've seen it happen. Young people become Christians, and the next thing is the

lose all respect for their families. What is to become of your mother and myself after death if there is no one to offer worship?”

“I would still love you. The Bible says we must love our parents.”

“That is not the same. You would go against all our traditions.”

Conversations such as this were becoming more frequent. Probably tonight it would be the same. They would probably suggest that he should no longer go to the fellowship.

On the next road there was a long wall. Some small boys were sitting on top of it, swinging their legs. He was like that—sitting on a wall, not knowing which side to come down.

At last his own street. The red gate of his own house. He knew what would happen. Once inside it would be harder than ever to make that decision.....

R.W.T.

AROUND THE CHURCHES

St. John's Cathedral, Taipei.

On 9th June, Trinity Sunday, St. John's Cathedral celebrated its **100th Bishop's Committee, meeting.** Though St. John's Church was built in 1956, yet it did not achieve cathedral status until January 1965 when Bishop James Wong became Bishop of the Diocese.

As Dean Chia was sick and convalescing, Canon Edmund Der was the celebrant and preacher at the memorable occasion. After the service, a dinner was held to celebrate the occasion.

Advent Church, Hsinpu

Whitsunday fell on 2nd June. It was also Youth Sunday in the Diocese. Some of our young people joined in a Retreat held at St. John's Cathedral on the same day from 10 am-7 pm. This was organized by the Youth Council and its theme was “How to develop Fellowship work.” Though the attendance was small, yet those who came really had a profitable time.

St. Peter's Church, Chiayi

On the 18th and 19th May, the Rev. Jason Ke invited Pastor Lian-Chin Cheng

to speak on the "Family." The first night's topic was "Husband and Wife Relationships", and the second, "Parents and Children." On both nights, the attendance was about sixty. It was still the subject on many mouths for a long time afterwards.

All Saints' Church, Kangshan

Mothers' Day was celebrated on the 12th May. As was the custom in the past, after the worship service at 11 am, mothers seventy years and over were invited to a party in the Friendship Hall. Flowers were given to the mothers by the Sunday School pupils and many presents were distributed too. A hymn for Mothers' Day was sung and a group photograph taken. The oldest lady present that day was aged 92. It was truly a day to remember.

SJSM Institute of Technology, Hsinpu.

On the 4th June, the producer of "The Industrial World" of China Television Corporation visited SJSMIT of Hsinpu and, together with his team, filmed a half hour programme on the Institute. The programme was later screened on television on the 16th June at 5.30 pm.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Shihlin

During the summer months, a notable drop in attendance at church was evident. This was due to many American families leaving the island for home and students from Hong Kong returning home for vacation and some having to do military service.

On 6-10 August, a vacation Bible school was held. Over sixty students came for the five-day effort. Activities included singing, storytelling, games, refreshment and handwork. The children really enjoyed it.

Six of our kindergarten teachers went on a one-week tour of Hong Kong on 29th July-5th August. They saw many church kindergartens in operation and benefited a lot from their experiences.

Report on the Adult Conference held at Sun Moon Lake

(19-21 July 1974)

Mr. Yiu-Dao Lee.

Praise the Lord for his grace and mercy! Our adult conference was a success. As to actual benefits and blessings, we will have to leave it to the experience of each

individual who attended. But I will briefly mention some personal experiences of God's wonderful grace and provision as I was preparing and organising the Conference. Truly His grace is sufficient for all our needs.

As this is our twentieth anniversary year, we selected the well-known scenic spot of Sun Moon Lake and the Teachers' Association Building as our conference centre. Now this Building is built for the benefit of teachers and is not easy to book. For outsiders the rate is high and during the summer vacation it is usually fully booked by teachers. But God was good to us. We were not only able to book it for two nights for fifty people, but also a special rate was granted to us, even cheaper than for the teachers. This was beyond our expectation.

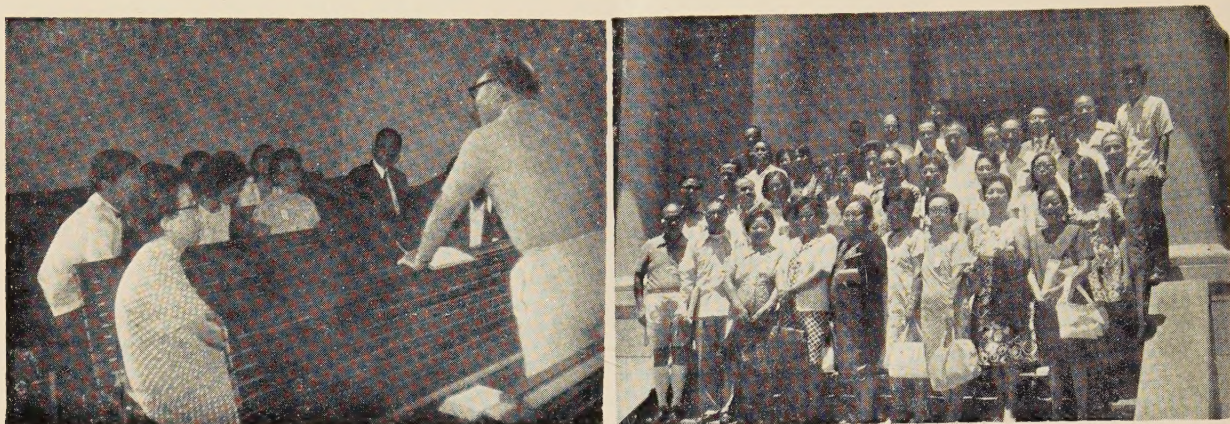
Having settled the question of the site for our Conference, the next problem was that of facilities. The Teachers' Association Building is excellent as far as living accommodation and food are concerned. The scenery is also beautiful. But there are practically no facilities for holding meetings and activities of a spiritual nature. They only have a library and an open garden area, not really suitable for our purposes. While I was puzzling over this problem, someone told me of a church nearby called the Jesus Church. So I quickly paid a visit to the pastor of the church. He was very helpful and cooperative. He offered us the use of all the facilities available, including Bibles and hymn books and even providing us with tea and biscuits. The pastor is the Rev. Ho Yi-Tung, attached to President Chiang's Chapel and often preaches to the President. He very kindly agreed to speak to us at one of our meetings. This was a wonderful privilege and provision from the Lord, for which we praise Him.

Finance was also another problem. Due to the rising cost of living and increased commodity prices, train fares also have gone up. So we had to increase our conference fees and decrease our travel subsidies. But we thank the Lord because no one raised a word of complaint. Everyone was happy and we even had a little bit of money left over to return to the Diocesan fund.

I also thank the Lord for many who were so helpful and cooperative. Especially in the matters of purchasing train tickets for the return journey and the booking of bus for touring purposes, I want to thank the Rev. James Pan and Mr. Tze-Nan Chang of Taichung.

Due to sudden unexpected rain on the first night of the Conference, we held our opening meeting and Getting-to-know-you Gathering in the Library. This turned out to be for our good because, had we gone ahead with our original plan or holding the meetings in the Church, the road and steps to the Church would be wet and slippery as a result of the rain and hence dangerous to those who were old and aged.

Our theme for the Conference was "Church Growth". I feel that if all of us were to pull our weight together and work for the Lord with faith and love, then the Lord will bless us and prepare everything for us in ways beyond our expectations and our church will grow and become alive and strong. Glory to His Name. Amen.



South East Asia Bishops Meet in Korea

Bishop James Pong was among those who met together for the annual CCSEA Bishops' meeting at the Roman Catholic Benedictine Retreat House at Waegwan on 28th May. Reports from the various dioceses were heard, and allocations made from the Revolving Loan Fund.

After this meeting the bishops met for two days with the Assistant Secretary of the Anglican Consultative Council, together with representative of the Nippon Sei Kokai (Anglican Church in Japan), the Church of England, the Episcopal Church of the USA, the Anglican Church of Canada, the Church of England in Australia and the Church of the Province of New Zealand for the first of a series of joint consultations on "Partners in Mission". But it was felt that the proposed three year plan for the region could not be arrived at till 1975. Further consultations in Hong Kong in November and in Kuching in April would first be necessary.

Following the conference and the consultation, the delegates returned to Seoul for the consecration of two new Korean bishops.

Farewell to the Chee Family

The trouble with exchange pastorates is that they are over far too quickly. We have enjoyed the fellowship of the Chee family, but by the time this magazine appears they will be back in Malaysia.

Before the end of the year, however, Wilfred will have taken his wife Lily and the two children, Denise and Andrew, to a new life in Australia; for he has been invited to become first assistant pastor and then full pastor at the Chinese Christian Church in Sydney. We wish them God's richest blessing as they embark on this new adventure.



Rev. Wilfred Chee at Student Camp.

COMMENT

The Taiwan Episcopal Church began because of the desire of those who came from Mainland China for the kind of worship to which they were accustomed. There is a danger in this—it could so easily lead people to think of the past only.

But if a Church is to be alive, it must give a lot of thought to the future. It is with today's young people that our future rests. Much more attention needs to be given to bringing young people to commitment and training them in Christian discipleship. Please pray with us that we may observe over the next few years the emergence of young people who are mature in Christ and well equipped for His work.

R.W.T.



廠刷印行生天
50, PO AI ROAD, TAIPEI
TEL. 319449 332444